



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – AUGUST 12, 2009

CITY OF SALEM AND JAYCEES JOIN FORCES TO BUILD COMMUNITY AMPHITHEATRE

The City of Salem and the Salem Jaycees announced this morning that they are joining forces to build a Community Amphitheatre at Longwood Park. The plans for the wood and concrete structure were announced at a news conference at City Hall.

Salem's Park and Recreation Director, John Shaner, was joined by Josh Gilbert of the Salem Jaycees, who presented the City with a check for \$48,375 - the amount that will completely fund Phase One of the project.

"This is something the City has been looking at for years, but without the great cooperation and generosity of the Salem Jaycees there is no way this would be happening in these uncertain economic times," says Shaner.

The amphitheatre will be located in the east end of Longwood Park in an area that is in a natural bowl. The hope is to use the facility for everything from one of the library's summer reading programs to a music concert or drama.

The amphitheatre will be 26-feet tall at its highest peak, 35-feet across and 15 to 20 feet deep. Once finished, it will have lights, an audio system and dressing rooms for the performers.

Work on the project will begin this fall and the amphitheatre should be operational by spring 2010.

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